

Meeting Outline

May 18, 2021 | Click [here](#) for online streaming, Zoom link, and committee information.

Political Subdivisions Interim Committee

8:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Room 120 Senate Building

Links to Meeting Materials Updated 5.19.21

State Capitol Complex, Salt Lake City, Utah

When the chair allows public comment, members of the public may participate in-person or online via Zoom.

Approximate
Time Frame

8:30 1. Committee Business

Background

- Call to order
- [Draft minutes of the November 18, 2020 meeting](#)
- [2021 Interim Schedule](#) (Updated April 27, 2021)

Issues

- [Annual Open and Public Meetings Act training](#)

Presenters

- Sarah Flanigan, Policy Analyst, Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel
- Peter Asplund, Attorney, Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel

Potential Action

- Approve draft minutes of the November 18, 2020 meeting.

8:40 2. Committee Study Items

Background

- [Approved Interim Study Topics, by Committee](#) (adopted by the Legislative

Management Committee April 14, 2021)

- [Political Subdivisions Interim Sunset Review and Statutorily Required Reports](#) (Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel)
- [Summary of Bills Passed](#)

Issues

- [Joint Rule 7-1-401](#) requires each interim committee to adopt a list of interim study items during the interim committee's first meeting.
- [Joint Rule 7-1-602](#) specifies that an interim committee may authorize the committee chairs to independently open one or more committee bill files throughout the interim period under certain conditions.

Presenters

- Sarah Flanigan, Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel

Potential Action

- Discuss, amend, approve interim study plan.
- Discuss motion authorizing chairs to independently open committee bill files.

8:50 3. Separation of Powers in County Government

Background

[S.B. 124](#) from General Session 2012 created Utah Code Section [17-19a-203](#), which gives the legislative body of the county authority to designate the county's budget officer, except for county executive-council forms of government, in which the county executive designates the budget officer. Section [17-19a-205](#) gives the legislative body authority to delegate an accounting service.

Currently, the clerk/auditor or auditor serves as the county's budget officer in 25 counties. The Uintah County Commission appointed a separate budget officer in November 2019. Utah County Commissioners recently considered moving budgeting functions away from the clerk/auditor's office.

Issues

- Which elected officials should have oversight of the budgeting function?

- Does current statute ensure appropriate separation of powers?

Presenters

- John Dougall, State Auditor
- Ricky Hatch, Weber County Clerk/Auditor ([PowerPoint available here](#))
- Amelia Powers Gardner, Utah County Commissioner ([PowerPoint available here](#))

Potential Action

- Request additional information.
- Request draft legislation.

10:00 4. Overview of Housing Affordability

Background

The Political Subdivisions Interim Committee will study the issue of housing affordability in consultation with the Commission on Housing Affordability. The Commission was created in General Session 2018 by [H.B. 430](#) and consists of 20 members from the public, private, and nonprofit sectors. The Commission has collaborated on the following bills:

- [S.B. 34](#) in General Session 2019
- [S.B. 39](#) in General Session 2020
- [S.B. 164](#) in General Session 2021

The Division of Housing and Community Development in the Department of Workforce Services annually publishes a [Statewide Affordable Housing Assessment](#).

Issues

- What is the status of affordable housing in the state?
- What actions has the Legislature already taken to address housing affordability?
- What is inclusionary zoning? Are there examples of these policies in Utah?

Presenters

- Keith Heaton, Department of Workforce Services
- David Fields, Department of Workforce Services ([PowerPoint available here](#))
- Peter Asplund, Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel ([PowerPoint available here](#))
- Sarah Flanigan, Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel ([PowerPoint available here](#))

Potential Action

- Request additional information.
- Request draft legislation.

10:40

5. Government Building Regulation Amendments

Rep. Ray will present legislation scheduled to be considered during the special session.

Background

The Legislature passed [H.B. 98 – Local Government Building Regulation Amendments](#) during the 2021 General Session. After the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) raised concerns about the bill in relation to the National Flood Insurance Program, Governor Cox vetoed the bill. The [Governor's veto letter](#) specified that he supported the bill but changes to address FEMA's concerns were needed. [H.B. 1003](#) no longer includes provisions related to independent third-party building inspectors. The bill also standardizes the name of the Utah Home Builders Association throughout the Utah Code.

Issues

- Does this bill adequately address FEMA's concerns?

Presenters

- Rep. Paul Ray, bill sponsor

Potential Action

- Discuss the bill.



- Designate the bill as a committee bill.

10:55

6. Other items/Adjourn